

## Kim DelNigro

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**From:** Roland Bartl  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 07, 2010 2:55 PM  
**To:** Kim DelNigro  
**Subject:** FW: RE: Language for packets regarding LID project

Please add this to the package for the 2/19 PIB agenda IV.

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**From:** cholley39@verizon.net [mailto:cholley39@verizon.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 07, 2010 2:19 PM  
**To:** Roland Bartl  
**Subject:** Re: RE: Language for packets regarding LID project

NPDES - the Federal stormwater stuff - requires the Town to do two things. One is to generate regulations regarding pollution (or preventing it) in the municipal stormwater system - catchbasins, and drains that eventually hit wetlands and streams. That is what the WRAC is working on now, in coordination with the Health Dept. The other thing is to generate regulations regarding stormwater management, including pre-during-and post construction of new buildings/developments. This regulation has lower priority per a letter the Town got from the EPA last fall, but is still required. So the WRAC will commence working on the regulation, which is typically (we checked) incorporated into a Planning Department's subdivision regulations, once we get the anti-pollution by-law passed this spring. Because the EPA these days very much favors the Low Impact Development over the conventional catchbasin-and-curb system, Acton's subdivision regulations need to be amended to permit, if not encourage, LID in areas where it is effective and safe. The OAR/GeoSyntec project deals with this, and therefore is reasonable background information for both the WRAC and the Planning Board to be exposed to.

The DRB's pervious paving excitement had to do only with pervious paving, one of several LID techniques, and since it was a stormwater management issue the Selectmen felt that the WRAC should drive the initiative. The DRB invited a vendor rep for pervious concrete, who gave a nice sales pitch but had not a lot of technical information behind him. WRAC members did some poking around the internet after that presentation and discovered that pervious concrete is not a ready-for-prime-time technology, although other types of pervious paving, particularly blocks with pervious spaces between as in the patio in front of the Discovery Museum, work well. To sum up, the WRAC is in charge of LID now, therefore in charge of pervious paving, and the Planning Dept.'s subdivision regulations will have to be tweaked and a bylaw promulgated to make the EPA happy, thereby avoiding being fined large sums of money by the Federal government.

The WRAC will be doing most of the work, but we do need a Planning Board member involved because

1/15/2010

the subdivision regulations live in your office.

Does that help? You must be out flat with all the issues the town is facing right now. I am answering you now because I know you can just let this sit in your in-box, as I am in juggle mode myself and therefore not always as coherent as I think I might be right now...

carol

Jan 7, 2010 12:09:28 PM, rbartl@acton-ma.gov wrote:

I am still trying to fit this in with anything else the Town is doing.

What is the the connection to the work that WRAC and Health are doing regarding stormwater policy?

And how does this relate to the discussion that occurred before the Planning Board last year regarding pervious pavements that the DRB was had initiated.

I can't deal with answers now. But, if you could think about the context a bit for the meeting. I am sure Planning Board members would appreciate it, too.

I apologize if I sound unknowleagble, aloof, or uninterested. But there are too many balls in the air to pay close attention to any of them.

Thanks -

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**From:** cholley39 [mailto:cholley39@verizon.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 06, 2010 6:27 PM  
**To:** Roland Bartl  
**Subject:** RE: Language for packets regarding LID project

Do you need anything else from OAR's end? I have emailed the consultant to see if he needs a screen and projector.

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**From:** Roland Bartl [mailto:rbartl@acton-ma.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 06, 2010 5:27 PM  
**To:** Carol Holley  
**Subject:** RE: Language for packets regarding LID project

okay

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**From:** cholley39 [mailto:cholley39@verizon.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 05, 2010 3:43 PM  
**To:** Roland Bartl  
**Subject:** Language for packets regarding LID project

Hi Roland – please let me know if this will work for the packets.

Carol

Geosyntec Consultants, on behalf of the organization for the Assabet River (OAR) has developed a model to evaluate the benefits of Low Impact Development (LID) stormwater management in the Nashoba Brook Watershed. This model can be easily applied or adapted as a planning tool for other watersheds in Acton. LID is an ecologically friendly approach to site development and storm water management that aims to mitigate development impacts to land and water resources. The approach emphasizes the integration of site design and planning techniques that conserve natural systems and hydrologic functions on a site. The practice has been successfully integrated into many municipal development codes and storm water management ordinances throughout the United States. Specifically, LID aims to:

- Preserve Open Space and Minimize Land Disturbance;
- Protect Natural Systems and Processes (drainage ways, vegetation, soils, sensitive areas);
- Reexamine the Use and Sizing of Traditional Site Infrastructure (lots, streets, curbs, gutters, sidewalks) and Customize Site Design to Each Site;
- Incorporate Natural Site Elements (wetlands, stream corridors, mature forests) as Design Elements; and
- Decentralize and Micromanage Storm Water at its Source.

For each parcel in the Nashoba Brook watershed, the model evaluates the costs and water quality benefits of LID compared to traditional stormwater management. The model also evaluates the relative suitability of developable parcels in Acton for LID stormwater techniques.

Regards,

**Bob Hartzel, CLM, CPESC**

*Senior Water Resources Scientist*

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1/15/2010

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